Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

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PAGE 01 PARIS 01917 231234Z

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 L-02 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 EUR-12	
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R 231212Z JAN 75	
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS	
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6088	
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA	
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AMEMBASSY SEOUL	
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR	
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE	
AMEMBASSY OSLO	
AMEMBASSY MANILA	
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI	
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AMEMBASSY ANKARA	
AMEMBASSY LONDON	
USMISSION NATO	
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E.O. 11652: GDS	
TAGS: MASS, XX	
SUBJECT: MILITARY UTILITY AND POLICY VALUE OF MASTER	
DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS	
REF: STATE 012376	
1. SUMMARY: WE ARE SATISFIED WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR	
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PAGE 02 PARIS 01917 231234Z	
HANDLING DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE. WE WANT	

THIS EXCHANGE TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND WHERE APPROPRIATE. END SUMMARY.

2. OUR MUTUAL WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT DATA EXCHANGE AGREE-MENT (DEA) WAS SIGNED WITH FRANCE IN MARCH 1962. CURRENTLY, THERE ARE 90 ANNEXES IN FORCE RMY 34, NAVY 32, AND AIR FORCE 24). MAAG FRANCE HAS EMBASSY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING THE DEA AND ANNEXES, IN CONSULTATION AS APPROPRIATE WITH THE POLITICAL SEC-TION, DCM AND AMBASSADOR. THIS HAS PROVEN TO BE A SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT AND THE MAAG MANNING LEVELS SEEM APPROPRIATE FOR ITS DEA RESPONSIBILITIES. SO FAR AS WE KNOW' THE DEA HAS HAD NO ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE CONDUCT OF GENERAL BILATERAL RELATIONS. FOR THAT MATTER, IT HAS HAD LITTLE MEASURABLE EFFECT ON GENERAL BILATERAL RELATIONS AT ALL. IT HAS SERVED, HOWEVER, TO DEMONSTRATE BOTH U.S. AND FRENCH DESIRE TO COOPERATE ON SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN MILITARY R AND D, NOTWITHSTANDING FRANCE'S DEPARTURE FROM NATO'S INTE-GRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE. THUS IT KEEPS OPEN AN IMPORTANT CHANNEL OF FRANCO-AMERICAN MILITARY COOPERA-TION -- A RESULT OF NO SMALL IMPORTANCE. MOREOVER. WHILE EACH SIDE HAS MADE IMPORTANT FINANCIAL SAVINGS THROUGH D COOPERATION (E.G., WE ESTIMATE THAT CERTAIN SONAR DATA OF FRENCH ORIGIN HAS SAVED US SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS IN U.S. R & D; WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED VALUABLE INFORMATION ON LASER TECHNOLOGY), THE FRENCH ARE THE MAJOR POTENTIAL BENEFICIARY -- GIVEN THE GENERALLY SUPERIOR QUALITY OF OUR "DATA." AS A RESULT, THE FACT THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN A PROGRAM OF COOPERATION THAT SERVES FRENCH INTERESTS STRENGTHENS THE CONFIDENCE OF THE FRENCH MILITARY IN THE UTILITY OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH. UNDERSTANDABLY, THE FRENCH HAVE PUSHED TO EXPAND THE DEA LIST, BUT THIS HAS NOT POSED PROBLEMS FOR US. WE ARE AWARE OF NO SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP, HOWEVER, BETWEEN DEA-PROVIDED DATA AND CO-PRODUCTION OR FOREIGN PRODUCTION.

3. ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE THE DEA HAS BEEN ONE OF THE "SUCCESS STORIES" IN FRANCOMERICAN POLITICAL/MILITARY CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 03 PARIS 01917 231234Z

RELATIONS OVER THE PAST DECADE. WE WANT IT TO CONTINUE AND WHERE APPROPRIATE TO EXPAND. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DATA, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, MILITARY INFORMATION PROGRAMS, TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004 Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS01917

Document Number: 1975PARIS01917
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750025-0766

From: PARIS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750126/aaaaaxck.tel Line Count: 110 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION PM Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS Reference: 75 STATE 012376 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: ElyME

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 17 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by ElyME>

Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MILITARY UTILITY AND POLICY VALUE OF MASTER DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS

TAGS: MASS, XX, US, FR To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006